



SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Annual Report 2016 - 2017





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Photo: Rodney Saul - The Chair

Introduction

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework was introduced by the NSW Government in 2009. This framework recognises that most communities share similar aspirations: a safe, healthy and pleasant place to live, a sustainable environment, opportunities for social interaction, opportunities for education and employment, and reliable infrastructure. It also recognises that council plans and policies should not exist in isolation - that they are inter-connected. It also allows for various plans to be drawn together, allowing council to understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts, by planning holistically and sustainably for the future.



Reporting is a key element to the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. Reporting back to the community about progress being made on implementation of the Delivery Program, progress towards achievement of the Community Strategic Plan outcomes, and financial performance against the annual and long-term budgets.

**“Planning holistically
and sustainably for the
future.”**

Following the merger, the Delivery Program and Operational Plans of the three former Councils were consolidated, with the current Delivery Program finishing at the end of 2018. A new Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program is to be developed within the next few months. Community consultation to gather the information to develop these documents has already occurred. A number of community forums were held across the region and community members were also able to have input via an online forum or hard copy surveys.

Message from the Administrator



On 12 May 2016 the New South Wales Government, by proclamation, merged the former Bombala, Snowy River and Cooma-Monaro Councils to form the Snowy Monaro Regional Council. At that time it was my privilege to be appointed as Administrator of the new Council until elections were held on 9 September 2017. My job has been to work with the General Manager, Mr Joe Vescio to bring the three councils into one, so that the newly elected Council will have a strong and stable platform moving forward.

Towns right across our local government area are already beginning to see the benefits of a larger, unified regional Council.

The township of Bombala has benefited from record infrastructure spending through Council's commitment to providing Bombala residents with improved drinking water and funding for a new Sewage Treatment Plant.

In Jindabyne, Council has commenced work to enhance the Jindabyne CBD in Snowy River Avenue which will help establish a true town centre.

There has been significant upgrades to the Cooma saleyards, helping overturn the regional trend where many saleyards are in decline and ours is now thriving.

Staff have helped me address the challenge of bringing three councils together, because they know that the Snowy Monaro Regional Council now has a greater capacity to deliver better outcomes and opportunities for our residents.

All in all, it's an exciting time for Snowy Monaro with the region about to be engulfed by major infrastructure projects such as the new Snowy Hydro expansion, including all the major Snowy Monaro Regional Council projects. My hope is the new Council will pick up the challenge and continue to move the region forward by embracing all of these changes for the benefit of our residents.



Message from the General Manager

Snowy Monaro Regional Council is committed to ensuring we deliver positive outcomes for our community and continue to provide a high-level, quality service that meets the needs and expectations of our residents.

On May 12, 2016, the three former Councils of Bombala, Cooma-Monaro and Snowy River amalgamated to form Snowy Monaro Regional Council. This Council has been presented with unique challenges: Consolidating three IT systems, delivering the \$14 million Stronger Communities Fund Major Projects and the ongoing harmonisation of services.

In what's been a busy 18-months for Council, we have implemented our new organisational structure. This has laid a strong foundation for the Executive Leadership Team and staff to continue working towards achieving the strategies and actions within the 2018 Operational Plan. The 2018 Operational Plan reflected the hard work of staff, community consultation and our efforts to develop a suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents incorporating the needs and aspirations of the local government area.

The organisation has made great strides in establishing a workplace culture that helps foster an environment where staff can fulfil their potential.

Our organisation has created a strong and stable platform to allow an easier transition from the administration period to that of an elected Council. Our 11 Councillors have commenced their important roles, and working closely together with the Executive Leadership Team we hope to continue delivering key outcomes for our community.

As a new Council, we are set to deliver 100 major projects through the Stronger Communities Fund. Delivering these vital community projects in less than two years will not be without its challenges. Towns and villages throughout the region have projects to be rolled out that will enhance their social, economic and tourism potentials.

The staff of Snowy Monaro Regional Council are to be thanked and congratulated for their great work across all offices and depots for using their shared knowledge to the benefit of all residents.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph K...'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Vision and Values

Snowy Monaro Regional Council is committed to ensuring it delivers positive outcomes for its community and continues to provide a high-level of service that meets the needs of residents.

Council continually strives to uphold its vision of being a 'trusted community partner'. Through providing a transparent, honest and hard working organisation, Council has fostered important links with the community to establish itself as a trusted partner.

To meet our vision, Council staff uphold five key values:

Solutionary

Together

Accountable

Innovative

Caring

Council understands the aspirations and goals the community has for the Snowy Monaro region. Through close working relationships with community organisations, Chambers of Commerce, Progress Associations and key stakeholders, Council is helping the community achieve these aspirations.

Snowy Monaro Region

The Snowy Monaro region has proud Aboriginal heritage, and Council acknowledges the Ngarigo, Walgalu, Southern Ngunnawal and Bidjawal people as the original custodians of our vast and beautiful region.

The region covers 15,158 square kilometres, surrounded by rolling plains and mountain ranges, with 28% of our region consisting of national parks or reserves. The remaining area is largely privately owned rural land.

The region sits at the top of both the Snowy and Murrumbidgee River Catchments. Along with their major tributaries, they offer significant environmental values, as well as a source of fresh water for urban, recreational, irrigation and energy uses.

Our Snowy Monaro region is proud and diverse. Its eclectic mix of people contributes to the growing and vibrant community with 20,217* people who love and call the region home. With roots in agriculture, timber, snowsport and the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme, our region boasts an indelible diversity.

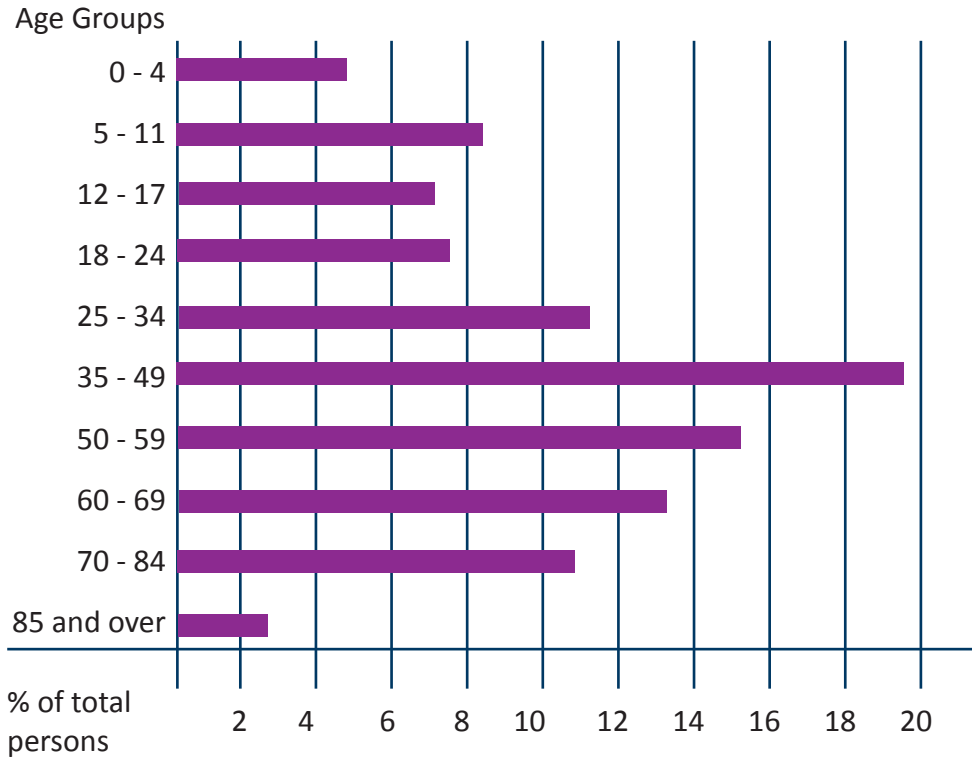
**Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census*



Photo: Taken of the NAIDOC week exhibition in Jindabyne

Age Groups

The Age Structure of Snowy Monaro Region provides insight into the level of demand for age based services and facilities.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census

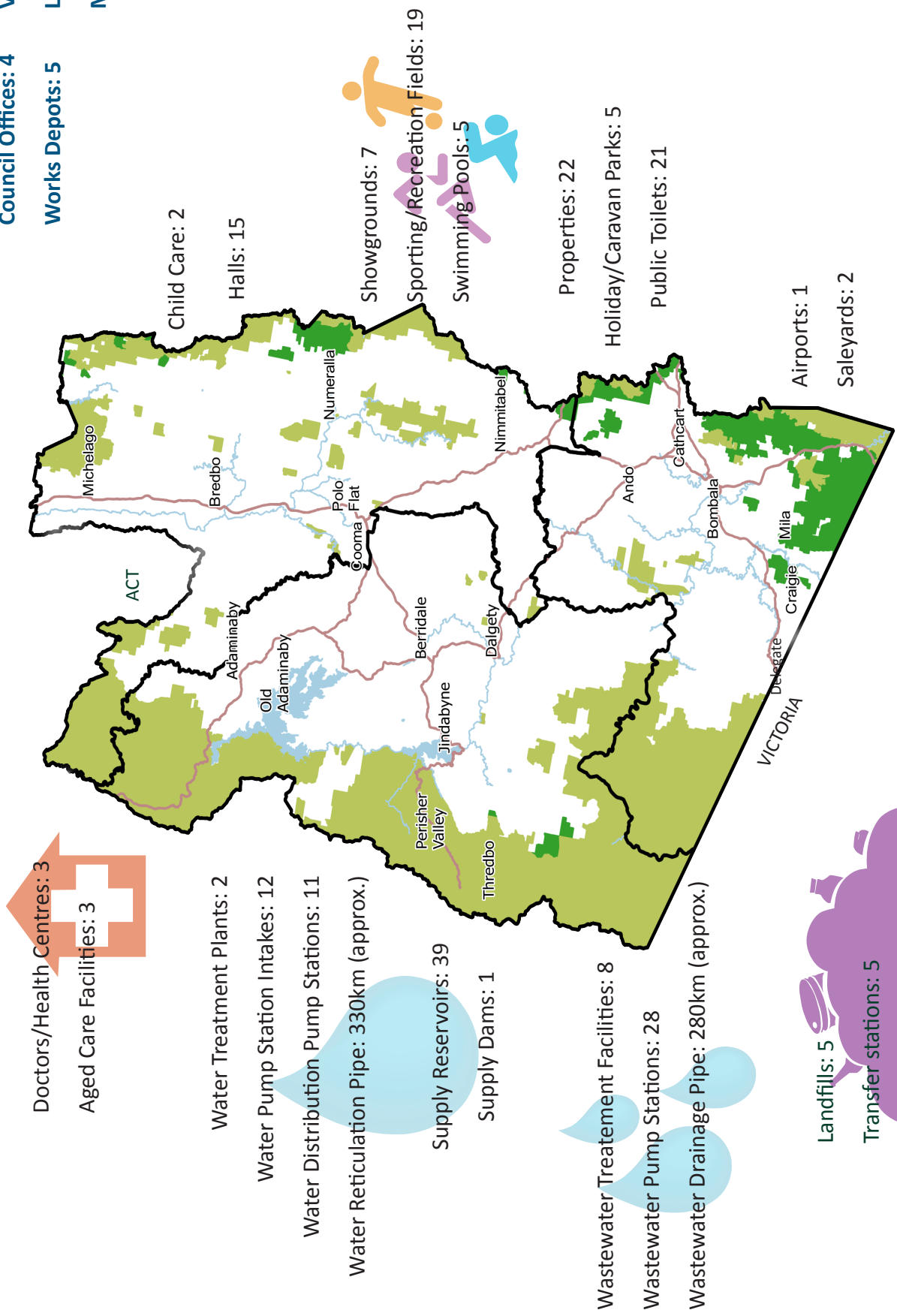




Photo: Michelle Jenkins - Sunset in the Snowies

Snowy Monaro Regional Council Facilities

Council Offices: 4 **Visitor Centers: 2**
Works Depots: 5 **Library: 2**
Mobile Library: 1



Council and Committees during the Administration Period

Council Meetings

The amalgamation of Bombala, Cooma-Monaro Shire and Snowy River Shire Councils on 12 May 2016 was followed by a period of administration to 9 September 2017. During that time Council meetings were presided over by an Administrator. At the first meeting of the amalgamated Council the time and dates for the Ordinary Council meetings were set as the last Wednesday of each month commencing at 5.30pm, excluding January where no Ordinary Meeting was held. The venue for the meetings was divided between the three former Council areas, with meetings being held in the Bombala, Berridale and Cooma offices. During the reporting period a total of 13 Ordinary Council Meetings and three (3) Extra-Ordinary Council Meetings were held.

The minutes and business papers are available to view at Council's offices and on Council's website at <https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/172/Meetings>

The Administrator

The Administrator of Snowy Monaro Regional Council held the same functions of the council and the Mayor of the council. The key responsibilities of the Administrator were:

- Charing council and committee meetings
- Acting as the council spokesperson
- Overseeing the provision of business as usual services to the community
- Maintaining the ethical, open and accountable governance
- Making decisions with the future in mind
- Attending major civic and community events
- Managing the performance of the interim General Manager
- Establishing Local Representative Committees
- Overseeing preparation and delivery of the Implementation Plan
- Leading preparation of the statement of vision and priorities
- Adopting the 2017 and 2018 operational plans, including the budget
- Engaging communities and partners in planning for the new council
- Engaging key local stakeholders
- Communicating comprehensively with communities and staff

Administrator's Delegations Meetings

Due to the merger and subsequent transition period council was required to make a number of decisions in accordance with the milestones set by the state government, to this effect Administrator Delegation's meetings were held on a regular basis to approve reports between Council meetings. Administrator Delegation's meeting as stated under the Act; were to exercise the functions of the governing body of Council between Council meetings.

These meetings were conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1993, Section 226 dot point (1) or (2). The Minutes of these meetings were published in the Ordinary Council business paper every month and the Business Papers of the Administrator's Delegations meeting are also available on Council's website at www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/905/Administrator-Delegations-Meetings

Local Representative Committees (LRCs)

Three Local Representative Committees, one from each of the former local government areas, operated during this period. Members of these committees were appointed by the Administrator and were formed to:-

- provide advice to the Administrator on local views and issues,
- provide input to the operational plans 2016-17 and 2017-18,
- advise on the communication and engagement plan for the community,
- provide input to the statement of vision and values,
- assist to engage communities and partners in planning for the new council.

LRCs met at least monthly, with the minutes of the LRC meetings being reported in the Ordinary Business Papers of Council.

Representation on these committees comprised predominantly of former councillors with some community representatives. Membership of the three Snowy Monaro Local Representative Committees was as follows:-

Bombala	Cooma	Snowy River
Steve Goodyer (Chair)	Rogan Corbett (Chair)	John Cahill (Chair) Resigned 1 December 2016
Diane Hampshire	Angela Ingram	Peter Beer (Chair from 1 December 2016)
Paul Perkins	Craig Mitchell	John Shumack
Gabrielle Rea	Winston Phillips	Bob Frost
		Annie O’Keeffe (Appointed 5 December 2016)

The LRCs were instrumental in prioritising the list of projects to be funded under both the Snowy Monaro Community Grants program (up to \$1M for incorporated not-for-profit community groups) and the Snowy Monaro Stronger Council Grants program (up to \$14M) for projects carried out on Council’s infrastructure. The Chairs of the LRCs were members of the Panel which made the final decision on the projects that were funded.

Representation on External Committees

Council was represented by the Administrator, LRC members and/or staff on a number of external organisations during this period including:-

- Aboriginal Liaison Committee
- ANU Medical School
- Bundian Way Advisory Committee
- Canberra Region Joint Organisation of Councils (CBRJO)
- CBRJO General Manager's Advisory Committee
- Cooma Correctional Centre Community Consultative Committee
- Community Safety Precinct Committee
- Cooma Universities Centre
- Delegate Progress Association
- Joint Regional Planning Panel
- Local Traffic Committee
- District Bush Fire Management Committee
- Monaro Regional Interagency
- Jindabyne Liquor Accord
- Southern Monaro Local Emergency Management Committee
- Southern Monaro Local Emergency Rescue Committee
- Monaro Housing Taskforce
- Monaro Regional Weeds Committee
- Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee
- South East Arts Board
- Snowy Mountains Neighbourhood Centre



Photo: Rodney Saul - The Shearing Shed

Council's Section 355 Committees

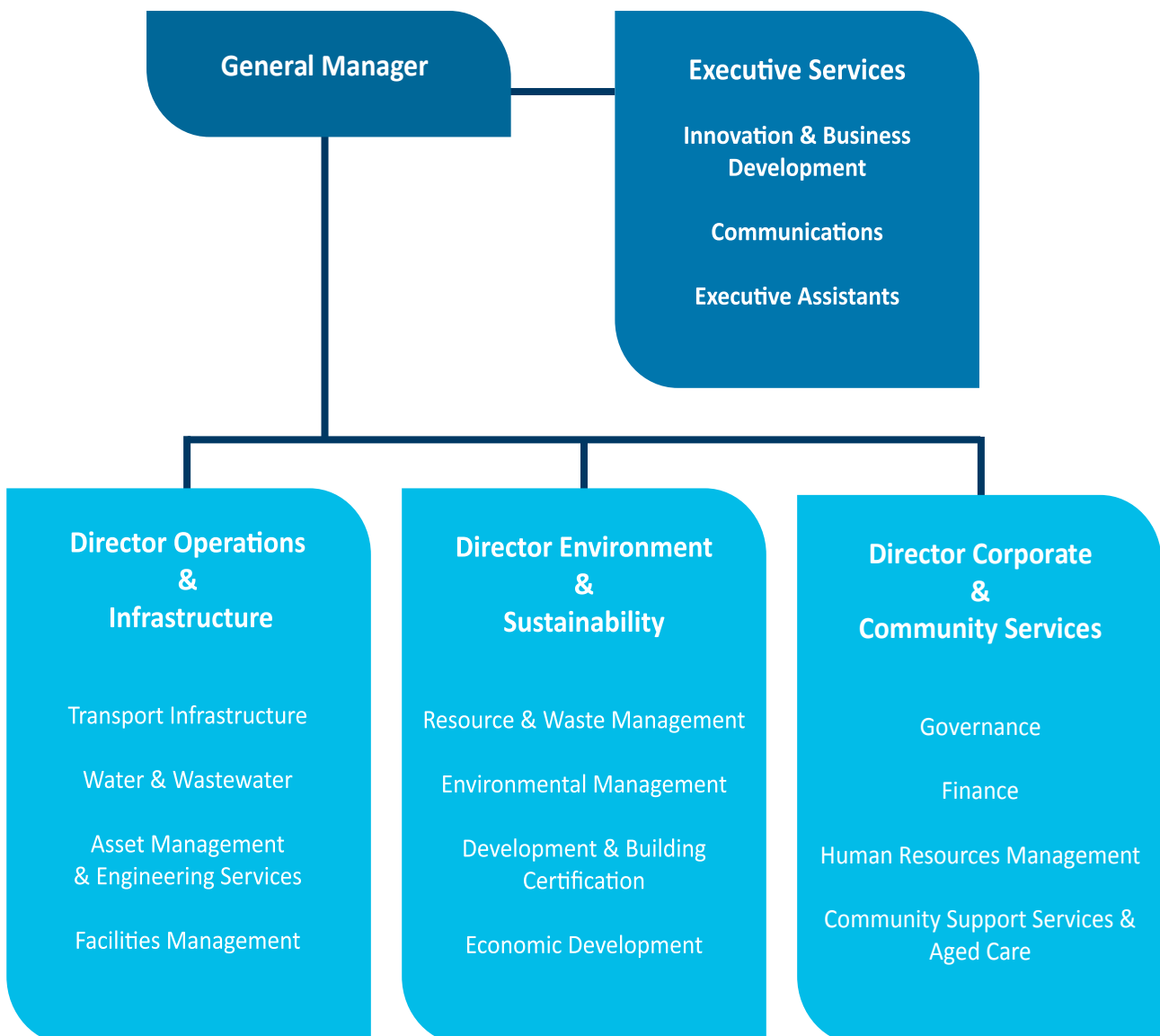
After amalgamation the following Section 355 Committees were reappointed to 9 September 2017.

- Adaminaby School of Arts Hall
- Aitchison House (Old Cottage)
- Berridale Beautification Committee
- Berridale Pool, Community Centre & Sportsground
- Dalgety Hall Management Committee
- Dalgety Showground
- Jindabyne Beautification
- Jindabyne Memorial Hall
- Jindabyne Shared Trails
- Jindabyne Sportsground and Recreation Areas Management Committee
- Arts and Cultural Activities
- Yallambee Lodge
- Community Services
- Cooma Tourism Adviosry
- Koala Management Plan
- Nimmitabel Showground Management
- Snowy Monaro Weeds
- Recreational Facilities
- North Ridge Reserve
- Old Cooma Grasslands Reserve
- Saleyards
- Yamaga Sister City
- Bredbo Cemetery
- Michelago Cemetery
- Immitabel Cemetery
- Numeralla Cemetery
- Peakview/Jerangle Cemetery
- Bredbo Hall
- Kybeyan Hall
- Michalego Hall
- Nimmitabel Hall
- Numerala Hall
- Peakview Hall
- Shannons Flat Hall
- Smiths Road Hall
- Bibbenluke Hall and Sportsground
- Bombala Exhibition Ground Management
- Bombala Racecourse and Recreation Ground Management
- Bombala Tennis Club
- Bombala Cemetery
- Bombala Swimming Pool Advisory
- Bombala Railway Land Development
- Bungarby Memorial Hall Preservation
- Cathcart School of Arts
- Craigie Hall
- Delegate and District Pre-School
- Delegate Sportsground
- Delegate School of Arts
- Delegate Early Settlers Hut
- Mila Country Club

Our Organisation

The General Manager, Joseph Vescio is responsible for the efficient and effective operation of Council’s organisation and for ensuring the implementation of decisions of Council. In particular he is responsible for the following functions:

- The day to day management of Council.
- To exercise such functions of Council as are delegated by the Council to the General Manager.
- To appoint staff in accordance with an organisation structure and resources approved by the Council.
- To direct and dismiss staff.
- To implement the Council’s equal employment opportunity management plan.



Highlights

Despite a number of challenges Snowy Monaro Regional Council has achieved many successes since May 2016. Council has continued to deliver projects and plans developed by the former three Councils and also those identified by the newly formed Council. Some of these highlights achieved under Council's seven key directions identified in its Community Strategic Plan are detailed on the following pages under these headings:

Seven Key Directions

1. Sustaining our Environment for Life
2. Expanding Connections within the Region & Beyond
3. Strengthening our Local Economy
4. Creating a Safer, Healthier & Thriving Community
5. Enhancing our Healthy, Active Lifestyle
6. Managing Development & Service Delivery to Retain the Things We Value
7. Providing Effective Civic Leadership and Citizen Participation



Key Direction 1 - Sustaining Our Environment for Life

A healthy and functioning natural environment, which the community values and enjoys and which is protected and managed for future generations.

- Two grants were received from the Office of Environment and Heritage, one for \$10,000 for Bombala and Delegate heritage main street studies and \$40,000 for a general heritage study of the former Bombala Council area.
- Delivery of successful grant funded projects for weed management and associated biodiversity improvements to the value of \$500,000 including:
 - Public Reserves Management Fund
 - River Bank Rehabilitation Fund
 - Weed Action Program Funding
 - Biodiversity Grant Fund - connected landscape of roadsides,
 - Reserves, cemeteries and other Council assets.
- Through the sharing of knowledge and resources from the three former Council areas, an integrated approach to kerbside collections and management of waste facilities across the three regions to improve recycling rates and reduce environmental impacts associated with waste disposal was commenced.
- Consistent reporting against the quadruple bottom line was introduced early in the merger, improving consideration of environmental impacts when making recommendations to the Administrator.
- Storm water upgrade at Polo Flat and Jindabyne Landfill.
- Opening of the Snowy River and Cooma-Monaro Community Recycling Centres that encourages recycling and proper disposal of problem waste items.
- Completing the Lake Wallace Project to provide a constant water supply for Nimmitabel.
- Purchase of weed mapping software to ensure council is meeting its biosecurity information system requirements.
- Council held a Resource and Waste Expo in early 2017 to bring awareness to recycling, reusing and waste.
- Continuation of not charging for disposal of domestic quantities of household recyclables at Council facilities which confirms Council's environmental commitment to 'reduce, reuse, recycle'
- Providing the Wheel In Wheel Out service for eligible residents who are physically incapable of wheeling bins to the kerb.

Key Direction 2 - Expanding Connections with in the Region & Beyond

A holistic approach to connecting our towns, people and businesses - both within the Region and to the wider world - through efficient use of funding, better transport systems and by maximising the potential of emerging technologies.

- Council has continued to work with the Canberra Region Joint Organisation of Councils (CBRJO) Economic Development workgroup to develop a CBRJO website designed to encourage people to visit, live, work and invest in the region.
- The Community Transport team has assisted approximately 927 clients over the past year, with volunteer drivers contributing 8,008 hours to this service and the community.
- A review of parking enforcement procedures was undertaken with a focus on enforcement of Disabled Parking spots and school zones focussing on No Standing Compliance.
- A new strategy for winter parking enforcement in Jindabyne, Council owned carparks, was prepared for the 2017 winter period to enable more efficient use of Council Ranger time during peak parking times, this included the Jindabyne foreshore.
- Works on Townsend Street (The Crack) Jindabyne were completed.
- Commenced works on the upgrade of Snowy River Avenue Jindabyne which includes upgrading the road, footpaths, parking in Kalkite Street and other cosmetic aspects to improve access, traffic flow and visitation.
- Council has made a considerable effort to find a compromise that would benefit residents living along Crown public roads, particularly in the township of Dalgety, and allow Council to undertake maintenance on behalf of the Crown. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted and agreed by both Crown Lands and Council and is now ready for signature. The purpose of this MOU is “to provide a framework by which Snowy Monaro Regional Council can, when requested, undertake maintenance work as Private Work on Crown road Reserves. This MOU does not include the transfer of Crown roads (formed or unformed) to Council”.



Key Direction 3 - Strengthening our Local

The region attracts increased investment and creates sustainable value in local employment industries. Residents have access to a range of learning opportunities that support future employment.

- The region was “put on the map” with the successful inaugural L’Etape Australia by Le Tour de France. This road race event saw Chris Froome, winner of the 2016 Tour de France participating. Chris will again be riding in the event in 2017 and plans are well advanced for this exciting second event. Council provided a substantial amount of assistance for this event with local communities also coming on board.
- The new Platypus Country Visitor Information Centre was completed early in 2017 and has received very favourable comments from visitors and locals alike.
- Council again supported the National Busking Championships held in Cooma. This event has continued to grow in popularity and last year attracted over 180 performers and around 3,000 visitors.
- The Cooma Saleyards complex benefitted from a major \$650,000 upgrade. This upgrade saw the old sheep yards gutted and replaced with new steel yards, new lighting, drainage upgrades and the installation of new water troughs.
- The development of an Economic Development Strategy for the region working in conjunction with Corview and the NSW Department of Industry and Investment was commenced.
- A new wrap on the outside of the Mobile Library, that was designed and created by Library staff in conjunction with photographer Charles Davis, reflects the beauty and history of the region from the snowy mountains to the plains and rivers, and has provided a much higher profile for the services. This has resulted in lots of positive feedback from the community which in turn has translated into continued support in both loans and visits.
- Agreement to consider entering into an MOU to explore options with the SMEC fluid Laboratory, including the possibility of transferring this to community ownership.
- Allocation of \$15m of funding across the region. \$14m of this was split equally between the three former Councils. (Note: We were the only merged council that did an exact equal split.)
- Council encourages educational opportunities by partnering with the Country Universities Centre Snowy Monaro.

Key Direction 4 - Creating a Safer, Healthier & Thriving Community

A safe and healthy community, rich in a diverse offering of activities and services available throughout the region that foster social connections and enhance wellbeing.

- Council has continued to provide well maintained and safe infrastructure to enable the community to lead active and healthy lifestyles. This includes skate parks, swimming pools and other recreational facilities.
- The Disability Inclusion Action Plan was developed and is utilised to inform design principles for Council works.
- Commonwealth home support services were successfully accredited.
- There has been a significant increase in the number of young people attending the Hub youth services.
- Council actively supports various Men's Shed groups and facilities across the region.
- The Scores-on-Doors program for retail food premises was expanded to include the former Snowy River Council area to complement the existing Scores-on-Doors program that the former Cooma-Monaro and Bombala Council area had. This has resulted in Council now having a successful Scores-on-Doors program regionally which ensures that the objectives of the NSW Food Authority are being met and that the health and wellbeing of our community and visitors to our area is seen as a priority.
- In conjunction with Snowy Hydro, Council supports and provides facilities for the Young Driver Program. This program teaches high school students the risks and consequences of negligent driving.

Key Direction 5 - Enhancing our Healthy, Active Lifestyle

Through best use of our environment and natural assets, our community and our visitors enjoy an active lifestyle and recreation opportunities, which lead to improved health and wellbeing throughout their lives.

- The completion of the Hatchery Bay shared trail link from Jindabyne has provided additional opportunities for people to ride, walk and run.
- Council supported the park and playground redevelopment at Lions Park in Yallakool Road, Cooma. The total project cost was \$362,000 which included grant funding from the NSW State Government under the Club Grants Program. The project included the construction of a children's playground with a section for access for all and a flying fox as well as improved car parking, enclosed off leash area for dogs, additional seats, picnic and barbecue facilities, and walking paths.
- Improving disabled access into the Cooma Gymnastics and Basketball Stadium.
- Finalisation of design works for both Berridale and Jindabyne Skate Parks.
- Council has supported numerous events during the Administration period to encourage tourism and growth of the region. Some of these events include the Back to Cooma festival, the Bombala Bike Show, the Flowing Festival, the Water Ski National Championships and the Land Rover 70th Anniversary Event. Council has also given donations to a number of smaller events and community groups.



Photo: Chris Rawlings - Come in and Skate Thredbo

Key Direction 6 - Managing Development & Service Delivery to Retain the Things We Value

Well-planned and managed growth that takes place in ways that meets community expectations and respects our values. Region-wide growth is supported by high quality water, sewage and waste infrastructure, within our economic means.

- Installation of water meters in Delegate as first phase of introducing a potable water supply to the community, as well as operation and maintenance improvements at the Bombala Water Treatment Plant.
- A project plan for consolidating the three existing Local Environmental Plans has been developed.
- Council facilitated the Monaro Regional Housing forum, supporting sector development & improving service access for community members regarding affordable housing choices across the region.
- Funding under the Stronger Communities Fund was dispersed.
- Major Projects funding has been allocated and works on these projects have commenced. All planning and infrastructure will be completed by May 2019.
- Council has expressed interest in the former Jindabyne Community Health building, in Bent Street Jindabyne, for use as an education/innovation hub. There is strong community support however, an EOI needs to be formalised.
- Council has commenced acquisition of the Old Bombala Infant School in Wellington St Bombala. This building is currently owned by Tafe NSW and involves a large building with surrounding land. There is currently a small group of Bombala volunteers who are keen to see the building used for an Arts Centre.
- Planning for the beautification of townships across the region has commenced.
- Providing higher quality water and sewer services for Bombala by having the resources to clean, improve and maintain infrastructure and apply for funding for further works.
- Council completed a review of all operational land and buildings across the region, this led to Council finalising two strategic land transactions that were previously identified by the former Snowy River and Cooma Monaro Councils. These transactions were the purchase of 56-59 Vale Street Cooma and the sale of the Jindabyne airfield. The Vale Street property currently receives income from 3 tenants and had previously been identified by the Cooma Council as a strategic community site. Council can now decide on whether it wants to provide “long vehicle” CBD parking, a Council “disabled friendly” meeting room or any other civic use. This review also identified that Council owns many other assets across the region, with the potential to be put to better community use.
- Water and Wastewater charges were significantly reduced for developers. This was introduced to encourage growth and development across the region.

Key Direction 7 - Providing Effective Civic Leadership and Citizen Participation

Local Government effectively represents our community and provides people with opportunities to participate in local decision-making. Council's governance systems deliver efficient management that meets community expectations, balanced with our ability to resource these needs.

- The Transition Plan provided an excellent framework for the implementation and monitoring of Council's merger project. Many benefits have been achieved, including; 80 baseline service reviews, a review and allocation of people and asset resources, a robust community engagement strategy and a permanent structure aligned with strategic workforce planning principles. The development and adoption of our organisation's vision and values provides a necessary platform for transformation strategies to achieve a stronger more efficient council.
- Establishment of Local Representative Committees (LRCs) for three former Council areas provided a conduit between the community and Council and helped smooth the transition from three former Council areas to one regional Council.
- In an innovative move, Council meetings held in Cooma are now webcast. This will allow interested community members across our wide geographical area to view Council meetings as they happen.
- Council celebrated NAIDOC week with a 'Meet the Elders' celebration and morning tea at Jindabyne, and inspiring exhibitions at the Raglan, Bundian Way and NWPS galleries.
- The inaugural Regional Networking Expo was introduced as a means to connect council with the community as well as different communities with each other. Guest speakers were invited to speak to attendees, as well as marketing campaigns and new initiatives within the council were launched
- Increased community consultation was able to be undertaken
- Implementation of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. This was an expansion of the role for the former Snowy River Audit Committee and is in line with the State Government requirements for improved internal auditing by councils.
- Harmonisation of Integrated Planning and Reporting suite of documents.

Local Government Act 1993

Council's Achievement in Implementing the Delivery Program

The body of this Annual report is Council's response to what has been achieved in implementing the delivery program and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken to achieve the objectives

End of Term Report

A report was presented to Council by the Administrator and can be found on Council's website.

Audited Financial Reports

The Snowy Monaro Regional Council 2017 Financial Statement and Auditors Report are outlined at Attachment 1 and include:

- Income Statement
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flow

Council's full financial statements are provided via this link: <https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/182/Annual-and-Financial-Reports>

Rates & Charges Written Off

Under Clause 132 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Council is required to report on rates and charges that were written off in the 2017 financial year. During the 2017 financial year the following bad and doubtful debts were written off:

During the reporting period \$53,375.35 of bad and doubtful debts were written off.

Expense Type	Amount \$
Cost of Provision for Bad Debts	\$5,209.00
Bad Debts Written Off	\$48,177.31
Interest Written Off	\$5,198.04
Total	\$58,584.35

Performance of Principal Activities (404 Reports)

In accordance with Section 404(5) of the Local Government Act 1993 regular progress reports are provided to the council reporting as to its progress with respect to the principal activities detailed in its delivery program. Progress reports are provided at least every 6 months see Attachment 2.

Snowy Monaro Regional Council prepared progress reports during this reporting year as follows:

Section 404 Report for the period July 2016 to December 2016

Section 404 Report for the period January 2017 to June 2017

Condition of Public Works

Asset Class	Estimate to bring works up to satisfactory standard (\$000)	Estimate of annual expense of maintaining works at that standard (\$000)	Councils maintenance program in 2017 (\$000)
Buildings	3,180	664	726
Other Structures	530	100	260
Public Roads	30,382	6,894	5,840
Water	12,923	1,863	2,188
Sewerage	17,850	1,818	2,078
Drainage	652	231	81
Open Space/ Recreation	1,476	192	228
Total	66,993	11,762	11,401

Legal Proceedings

For the reporting period, Council was involved in 3 of legal proceedings exceeding \$10,000. Of the 3 proceedings all were ongoing at 30 June 2017.

Legal Expenses Summary

Planning and Development	\$142,817.13
Debt Recovery	\$70,930.08
Other*	\$278,485.47

*Other includes matters pertaining to Liquid Trade Waste, Animal Control, Human Resources, Yallambee Lodge and Executive Support.

Legal Recoveries Summary

Rates and Charges (extra charges)	\$94,410.29
Other*	\$8,672.31
Other-interest on court fees owned**	\$33,835.72

*Other includes Judgements relating to Noxious Weeds violations.

** Other - Interest on court fees owed for Legal Recoveries

Payments of Expenses and Provision of Facilities

Council's Policy, SMRC 2 - Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayor and Councillors, is made under the Local Government Act 1993, section 252 to 254A. Council's adopted policy can be found via this link
www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/DocumentCenter/View/5773

Money Expended on Mayor and Councillors*, Administrator and Local Representative Committee Members

Expense	Amount \$
Mayoral Fee*	\$2,759.54
Councillor Fees*	\$21,212.38
Administrator Fee	\$192,285.76
Local Representative Committee Member Fees	\$140,760.32
Total Amount Expended for Provision of Facilities	\$54,680.01
Total	\$411,698.01

* Residual payments to Mayors and Councillors for former Councils were made in the 2017 FY for the prior year.

Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Administrator and Local Representative Committee Members

Section LGR 217(a1)	Expense	Amount \$
(i)	Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to councillors	\$328.33
(ii)	Telephone calls made by Councillors*	\$10,709.88
(iii)	Conferences and seminars	\$1,852.12
(iv)	Training and Development from prior year	\$3,250.00
(v)	Interstate Visits**	\$1,290.75
(vi)	Overseas Visits	Nil
(vii)	Person Accompanying Administrator	Nil
(viii)	Child or Family Member Care	Nil
	Travel (excluding overseas & interstate visits) ***	\$19,148.47
	Food and Catering – civic rec, LRC, prior council	\$17,241.40
	Vehicle Allowance	\$702.00
	Other	\$157.06

*Includes office phone, mobile and IPAD

**Administrator attendance at LG Congress Hobart 22 – 24 May 2017

***Travel to LRC meetings, Some Councillor travel from prior year

General Manager and Senior Staff Expenditure

During the reporting period Snowy Monaro Regional Council employed the General Manager and 1 existing director (until 1 March 2017). In May 2017, 3 new Directors were appointed making a total of 4 senior staff for the period May and June 2017. The remuneration for the 2017 financial year were:-

General Manager

Section LGR 217(b)	Remuneration Component	Amount \$
(i)	Salary	\$198,308.00
(ii)	Additional Payment*	\$17,500.00
(iii)	Contribution to superannuation	\$35,004.00
(iv)	Non cash benefits	\$11,910.00
(v)	Fringe Benefits Tax on Non-Cash Benefits	\$7,430.00
	Total **	\$270,152.00

*Additional Payment is the difference between the General Manager Snowy River Shire Council and LGNSW estimate of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council General Manager Salary estimate.

**This payment is for the period 13 May 2016 to 30 June 2017. The TRP for the General Manager package for 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 is \$250,000

Senior Staff (Directors Only)

Section LGR 217(c)	Remuneration Component	Amount \$
(i)	Salary	\$218,614.61
(ii)	Additional Payment*	\$147,630.00
(iii)	Contribution to superannuation	\$27,338.09
(iv)	Non cash benefits	\$18,502.12
(v)	Fringe Benefits Tax on Non-Cash Benefits**	\$7,206.61
	Total	\$419,291.43

*Additional Payments including a contract termination payment for a redundant role in the new structure.

** Fringe Benefits tax on Leaseback vehicles.

Council Business Activities

Council adopted the principle of “competitive neutrality” to its business activities as part of the national competition policy applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework is set out in the June 1996 Government Policy Statement on the “Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government”. The “Pricing and Costing for Council Business a Guide to Competitive Neutrality” issued by the Department of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

In accordance with Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:-

Category 1

- Combined Water Services
- Sewerage Services
- Waste Management Services

Category 2

- Jindabyne Holiday Park
- Quarry Operation
- Snowy River Health Centre
- Yallambee Lodge
- Cooma Sale yards
- Rainbow Pines Tourist Caravan Park (Adaminiby)
- Snowy River Holiday Park (Dalgety)
- Bombala Caravan Park
- Delegate Caravan Park
- Nimmitabel Caravan Park

Councils recognises the principles of competitive neutrality in relation to its business activities.



Photo: Amanda Irwin - Mowamba Double Rainbow

Contracts Awarded

Details of Contracts awarded during 2016/17 – Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(a2)

Details of each contract awarded by Council during 2016/17 (whether as a result of tender or otherwise) other than:-

- (i) Employment contracts (that is, contracts of service but not contracts for services), and
- (ii) Contracts for less than \$150,000 or such other amount as may be prescribed by the regulations, including the name of the contractor, the nature of the goods or services supplied by the contractor and the total amount payable to the contractor under the contract.

Name of Contractor	Goods or Services Provided	Total Contract Value
Remondis Australia Pty Ltd	Waste and Recyclables Collection and Management	\$5,066,034
IMEEC Electrical Pty Ltd	Upgrade to Bombala Water Treatment Plant Controls System	\$535,979
New Plumbing Solutions	Delegate Water Meter Installation	\$486,544
CAMMS	ICT Services SCM0020	\$697,083.30
Monaro Aquatics	Cooma Festival Swimming Pool	\$194,289
Snowy River Avenue	McMahon's Earthmoving	\$1,300,000
Replacement of Front End Loader - Plant No 9856	Komatsu Australia	\$258,898.20
Water Main Replacement in Berridale, Adaminaby and Dalgety	Benex Pipelines	\$612,000
Jindabyne STP Sludge & Septage Ponds	RD Miller	\$664,000

Work on Private Land - Section 67

During the 2016 financial year Council undertook access road maintenance for ratepayers including road grading, gravelling, and ramp cleaning. All work was undertaken at commercial plant hire rates and not subsidised. All works were undertaken on private land not under the control of Council except for the work carried out on Townsend Street Jindabyne.

Townsend Street:

Given the location of Townsend Street (The Crack) and its prominent position near Lake Jindabyne (and therefore exposure to tourists); Council at its meeting on 31 August 2016 resolved to approve to undertake Private Works on Townsend Street and waive 50% of the overall cost for the repair of Townsend Street (The Crack); the remainder to be funded by the residents.

The total Cost of work was \$39,198 and with \$15,450 community contribution, the net cost of work to Council was \$23,748.

Donations by Council - Section 356

Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (section 356)

	Amount \$
Tourism development	\$9,500
SEWOL	\$4,410
South East Arts	\$15,793
Boco Rock community grants	\$98,404
Tourism snowy mountains	\$61,288
Other*	\$104,740
Total	\$294,136

*Other includes Schools, Shows, sporting events, community based activities and support groups.

Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

The EEO Management Plan underpins Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and, as required under the Local Government Act 1993, and outlines the programs by which the principles are to be achieved.

External Bodies

The following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council.

- Rural Fire Service
- State Emergency Services
- South East Weight of Loads Committee (SEWOL)
- Bushfire Management Committee
- Canberra Regional Organisation of Councils
- Regional Noxious Weeds Committee
- Forestry Corporation of NSW

Controlling Interest in Companies

Council does not have any controlling interests in companies.

Partnerships, Co-operatives or Other Joint Ventures

Snowy Monaro Regional Council has continued to be a shareholder in the Southern Phone Company, a telecommunications company covering the south east region of NSW. All former councils were a shareholder of this company.

Council was a member of Statewide Mutual Liability Scheme during the reporting period and also a member of StateCover a workers compensation scheme.

Overseas Visits

There were no overseas visits taken by the Administrator, council staff or persons representing Council during the Reporting period.

Stormwater Management Services

Council levied a charge in certain areas of the former Bombala Council and received \$17,267 for stormwater management services during the 2016/17 financial period. No expenditure occurred during the period.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

One voluntary planning agreement ended within the reporting period with the final stage of subdivision. One voluntary planning agreement remains in place with no works occurring within the reporting period.

Government Information (Public Access) ACT 2009 and Regulation

Schedule 2 Statistical Information about access applications

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Sector Business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for Profit Organisations or Community Groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the Public (Application by Legal Representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications	
Reason for invalidity	No. of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (Section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (Section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (Section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act*

	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

* More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0
Adoption	0

Table F: Timelines	
	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	3
Decided after 35 (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	3

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)			
	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by ADT	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)	
	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see Section 54 of the Act)	0

Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998

Council Complies with the Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998.



Companion Animals Act 1998

Lodgement of Pound Data Collection Returns

Pound data has been entered in Companion Animals Register with the Division by Council Rangers. For the 2016/2017 financial year:

- 103 dogs were impounded
- 79 were released to the owners
- 2 sold
- 19 released to be rehomed with the Cooma Branch RSPCA
- 2 dogs declared as restricted were euthanised

Lodgement of Data Relating to Dog Attacks

All dog attacks have been entered into the OLG Companion Animal Register with either Menacing or Dangerous Dog declarations issued.

Companion Animal Management Activities

Combined Budget for Companion Animal Management for 16/17 was \$258,643.

Companion Animal Community Education Programs

Facebook posts to regional community groups on a regular basis is organised by our Ranger team and Communications team.

Strategies to Promote and Assist the De-Sexing of Dogs and Cats

Council was successful in obtaining grant funding to carry out a 50/50 subsidised microchipping and desexing program. In total over 70 procedures valued at approximately \$9000 were carried out covering all areas of the Council region.

Strategies to Seek Alternatives to Euthanasia for Unclaimed Animals

Excellent working relationship with Cooma RSPCA and other Rescue agencies such as the “Golden Oldies”. Other rescue agencies sought when required depending on breed and the needs of the animal.

Off Leash Areas Provided in the Council Area

Off leash areas provided in major towns and villages include:-

Bombala

Along the reserve of the Bombala River.

Jindabyne

Along the foreshore, west of the toilet block at the clay pits, to the east of the sailing club.
Along Pooh Bay Foreshore, off Cobbon Crescent.

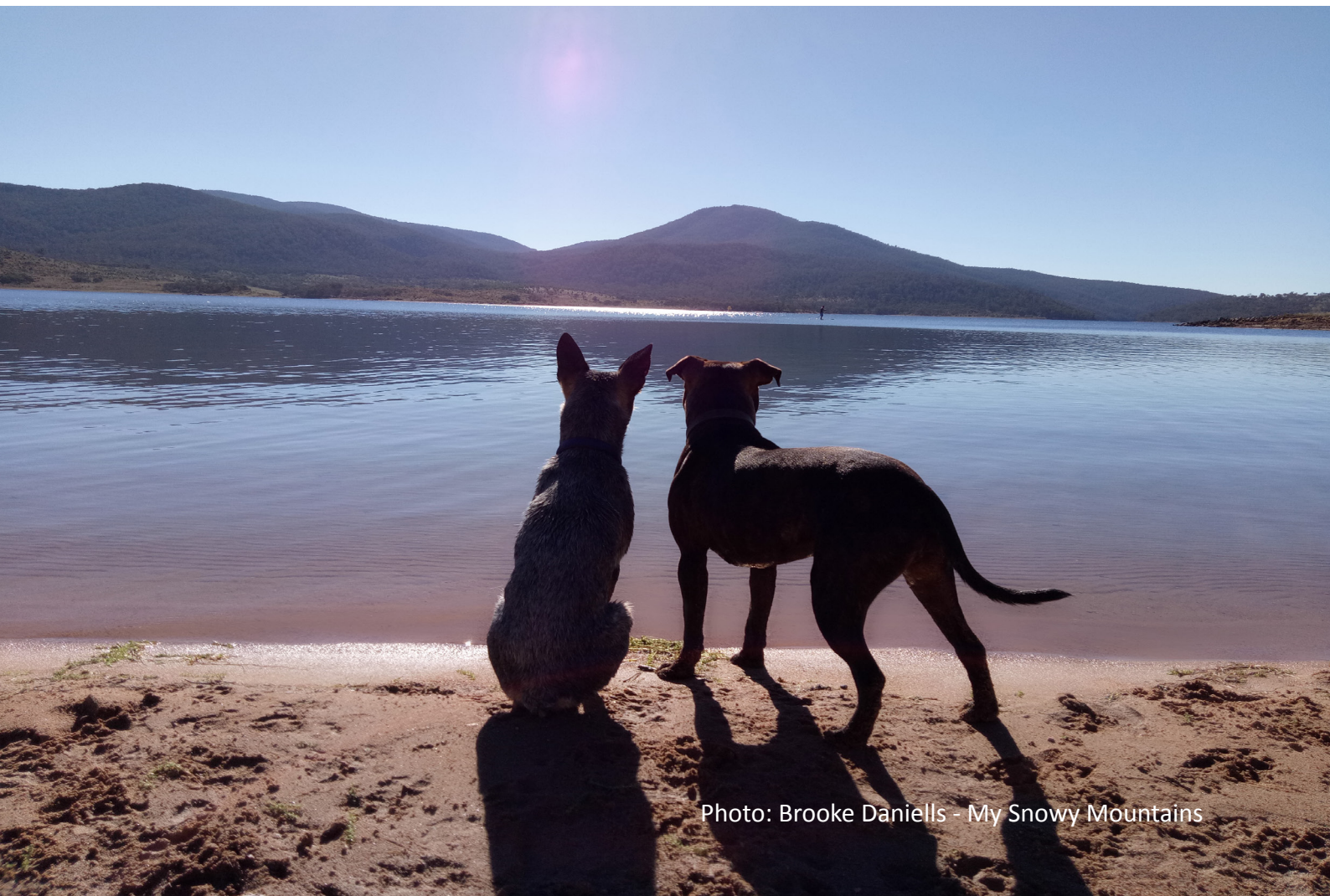
Berridale

On Myack Creek Reserve near Ivy Cottage Estate.

Cooma

Church Road – the grassed area which extends along Church Road and is bound on the far side by Cooma Creek.

Maps showing these areas can be sourced from Council's website on <https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/503/Off-Leash-Areas>





SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL